

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 LAB-04
SIL-01 OC-06 CCO-00 PA-02 /052 W
-----054107 020757Z /14

R 312226Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8531
INFO AMCONSUL CALGARY
AMCONSUL HALIFAX
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMCONSUL QUEBEC
AMCONSUL TORONTO
AMCONSUL VANCOUVER
AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

UNCLAS OTTAWA 04297

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, ELAB, CA
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: AIR CANADA SHUTDOWN

REF: OTTAWA 4202

1. EARLY RADIO REPORTS AUG. 31 INDICATE BOTH UNION AND MANAGEMENT NEGOTIATORS APPROACHING DAY'S MEETINGS WITH SOME OPTIMISM.
 2. AFTER TEMPORARY HIATUS CAUSED BY RESIGNATION OF THREE MONTREAL REPRESENTATIVES FROM IAM'S NEGOTIATING TEAM AUG. 29, SOME PROGRESS WAS REPORTEDLY MADE IN TALKS ON THE 30TH. MONTREAL MEMBERS' RESIGNATION HIGHLIGHTS LACK OF UNITY WITHIN UNION AND PRECARIOUS POSITION OF ITS NEGOTIATING TEAM WHICH HAS TO DATE PROVISIONALLY ACCEPTED TWO CONTRACT OFFERS FROM AIR CANADA ONLY TO HAVE THEM DISAPPROVED IN VOTE OF MEMBERS.
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3. THE GOC ANNOUNCED AUG. 30 THAT IT WILL NOT INTERVENE IN THE TALKS NOR ARE THERE ANY PLANS TO RECALL PARLIAMENT TO CONSIDER EMERGENCY LEGISLATION TO FORCE WORKERS TO RETURN TO JOB. THE LATTER POSSIBILITY HAD BEEN CONSIDERED LIKELY BY MANY OBSERVERS WHEN SHUTDOWN ACTION FIRST TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO CONTINUED WILDCAT WORK STOPPAGES BY IAM.

WITH THIS SIGNAL FROM THE GOVERNMENT THAT THE TWO SIDES
WILL HAVE TO WORK OUT THEIR OWN PROBLEMS MORE SERIOUS
NEGOTIATIONS MAY RESULT.

4. THERE SEEM TO BE NO GOOD GUESSES HERE AMONG AVIATION
OFFICIALS IN INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT ON WHEN AGREEMENT
MIGHT BE REACHED. THE UNION SAID YESTERDAY IF THE STRIKE
IS NOT SETTLED THIS WEEK, IT COULD GO ON FOR A MONTH.
EVEN IF AGREEMENT IS REACHED SOON, HOWEVER, AIR CANADA'S
PROBLEMS ARE NOT OVER. THE 2,700 FLIGHT ATTENDANTS OF
THE AIRLINE ARE NOW TAKING A STRIKE VOTE. ENDERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AEROSPACE INDUSTRY, LABOR STRIKES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978OTTAWA04297
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780359-0381
Format: TEL
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978083/aaaaacmy.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: de1ea45c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 OTTAWA 4202
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1639204
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: AIR CANADA SHUTDOWN
TAGS: EAIR, ELAB, CA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/de1ea45c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014